



Mission, vision and values

2.1. Mission

The mission of UCD is to advance knowledge, to pursue truth and to foster learning, in an atmosphere of discovery, creativity and innovation, drawing out the best in each student and contributing to the social, cultural and economic life of Ireland in the wider world.

2.2. Vision

In the process of achieving the objectives and implementing the actions set out in this plan, UCD will be:

- A leading international research-intensive university where excellence in education goes hand in glove with a commitment to research, scholarship, creativity and innovation
- A university where innovation sits alongside education and research as a third, equally significant pillar of activity
- A university committed to increasing levels of collaboration and partnership with Irish and international peers, government and industry
- A university that shapes local and global agendas, supporting where appropriate and challenging where warranted
- A university which is distinctly Irish, diverse, socially inclusive and recognised as world-class
- A university that continues to play a central role in the shaping of modern Ireland, that engages the global Irish community and that offers an educational gateway to Europe for increasing numbers of international students
- A university where the holistic development of the individual is central to our academic, social, cultural and professional lives
- A university where excellence is the benchmark for everything that we do.

2.3. Values

UCD's values are based on a fundamental belief that excellence in teaching, research and innovation (*Ad Astra*) is achievable. Our values have at their core a commitment to equity and fairness (*Comhthrom Féinne*).

UCD is committed to:

- The holistic development of each student to her or his fullest potential
- Strong disciplines and degree programmes as the foundations of interdisciplinarity and innovation
- A conviction that research and teaching are critically interrelated, mutually sustaining and equally valued
- The understanding and development of cultural literacy amongst our students and staff
- The positioning of critical discourse and creative innovation at the centre of our research and educational activity
- Providing a sense of welcome to our students, staff, visitors and all our stakeholders
- Imbuing a strong sense of global citizenship amongst our students and staff
- Independence and autonomy, in the best traditions of universities worldwide
- Transparency and accountability in our external and internal processes
- Excellence, benchmarked against international standards in everything we do.

